North Texas

North Texas PC Users Group, Inc.

NTPCUG

PC NEWS

DEADLINE
Copy deadline for November
North Texas PC NEWS:
Friday, October 10th

Meeting Dates:

October 11, 1997 – 2nd Saturday
November 15, 1997 – 3rd Saturday
December 13, 3rd Saturday

☐NT✦PCUG☑☐
NORTH TEXAS PC USERS GROUP, INC

In this Issue . . .

North Texas PC News

Advertising Prices and Policies

Ad Size	1X	3X	6X	12X
2-Page Spread	$400	$325		
Full Page (7 x 9)	225	195	$165	$150
Half Page (7 x 4 1/2)	150	125	110	100
Qtr Page (3 1/4 x 4 1/2)	100	80	65	55
Business Card (2 x 3 1/4)	65	50	40	35
Business Card (Members)	35	25	20	20

Reduced rates for multiple insertions of same ad. Require prior commitment in writing and payment in advance (3 months minimum). Copy and mechanical changes requested between insertions will be billed accordingly.

Deadlines: All advertising copy must be received by the *PC News* staff no later than the 10th day of the month prior to the month of publication unless other arrangements are made with the Publisher. *NT PC News* publication date is 10 days before the monthly meeting of the North Texas PC Users Group.

Policies & Mechanicals:

● Commercial ads must be in repro form, in final size, ready for printing.

● Halftones must be furnished as final size, screened prints or negatives

● Halftone screens cannot exceed 100 LPI maximum.

● No ads on front cover. Bleed pages and color must be discussed with Publisher before submission.

● Related ads only; suitability is at discretion of the Publisher and the North Texas PC Users Group Board of Directors.

Payment: Payment in advance of publication.
Make checks payable to: North Texas PC Users Group, Inc.

9:00 AM - 9:55 AM

Is Internet Trading Obsolete?
Direct Trading Corporation

Learn how to perform direct stock market trading without using a discounter or broker. Use Real-Tick III software for real-time historical charting and technical analysis, with all the graphical and technical functionality of MarketView in the Microsoft Windows environment. There will be a drawing for free products. *

10:00 AM - 10:55 AM　　　　　　　　*Adobe Acrobat*

Adobe Systems
Shelly Baker

Adobe Acrobat is used to publish documents on the Web, Intranets, and CD-ROM. You can use Acrobat to create Portable Document Format (PDF) documents which can be read across any platform, retaining the look and feel of the original. The .PDF documents can contain links, forms, graphics and movies. The Acrobat Reader is distributed free of charge. There will be a drawing for free products. *

11:00 PM - 11:30 AM　　　　　## NTPCUG Business Meeting

12:00 PM - 12:55 PM　　　　　　　*Lotus Smartsuite 97*

Lotus Corporation

Lotus Smartsuite 97 for Windows 95 and NT 4.0 is a complete suite of 32-bit desktop applications that provides the tools you need to get everyday tasks done more quickly, collaborate with others more effectively, and communicate more easily via today's cutting edge technologies, including the Internet and the World Wide Web. The applications include a spreadsheet, word processor, relational database, presentation graphics, time management, and business multimedia. There will be a drawing for free products. *

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* Tickets for each drawing will be given out from 10 minutes before until 15 minutes after the start-time of the meeting to attending NTPCUG members who show proof of membership.

PROGRAMS & PRESENTATIONS...
TIMOTHY CARMICHAEL

SEPTEMBER 20

SIGs NTPCUG Special Interest Group Meeting Schedule

8:00 - 8:55
Internet – WEB Developers
Microsoft Networking
Visual BASIC - Beginning
MultiMedia

8:00 - 9:55
Hardware Solutions

9:00 - 9:55
DOS/ Operating Systems
General Genealogy
Internet-Advanced
SQL Server
Introduction to the PC
Quicken
Visual BASIC
Windows Applications
WordPerfect/DOS

9:00 - 10:55
Dallas Corel

10:00 - 10:55
ACTI
CAD
Delphi
Emerging Technologies
Fox Pro Database
Networking
Internet-Beginning
PAF-Genealogy
Introduction to the PC
WordPerfect/Windows
UNIX

11:00 - 11:30
Business Meeting

11:00 - 11:55
Assembly Language
Brother's Keeper

11:00 - 11:55 Ctd.
CAD (Cont.)
Investors
Graphics
Microsoft FrontPage
Paradox
Roots III/IV - Genealogy
Spreadsheets
Microsoft Visual C++/MFC

11:30 - 12:00
NTPCUG Orientation

12:00 - 12:55
Access
Alpha Four
C++ Language
Communications
Desktop Publishing
Java

Introduction to the PC
The Master Genealogist

1:00 - 1:55
ActiveX Developers
Business Apps./DAC Easy
Lotus Notes & Domino

1:00 - 1:55 Ctd.
Introduction to the PC
QuickBooks

1:00 - 2:55
Word for Windows

2:00 - 2:55
Advanced Programmers

SIG Schedules may be subject to changes at the last minute. Please consult the BBS, or the NTPCUG Web page (www.ntpcug.org) and remember to check the handouts in the INFOMART lobby and at the NTPCUG Information Booth in the Vendor Area for latest SIG schedules and room locations.

## October Happenings — From A September 10 Viewpoint...

This is one of those months where the meeting date makes writing this column difficult. It's September 10th, 10 days before the September meeting, and I have to write about October!

Marketing the NTPCUG Multimedia Presentations

Most of the people who come to the Infomart Vendor Area on meeting days don't know the larger show is inside, what the NTPCUG is or about the SIG meetings and presentations taking place in the rest of Infomart.. The NTPCUG Board of Directors and officers have embarked on a campaign to make the Users Group much better known — and our old "Best kept secret in Dallas" moniker a relic of the past. You may have seen some of our efforts at the September meeting.

Marsha Drebelbis and Rose Anne Ellison (of Corel SIG fame) have been putting together a 15-minute multimedia presentation about the Users Group. It should be running at the Users Group Information Booth in the Vendor Area and also outside the Auditorium at the Microsoft Tech Tour presentation in September.

Dennis Rice, Multimedia SIG Leader, is also working on a multimedia presentation showing the

Prez Sez . . .
Jim Hoisington
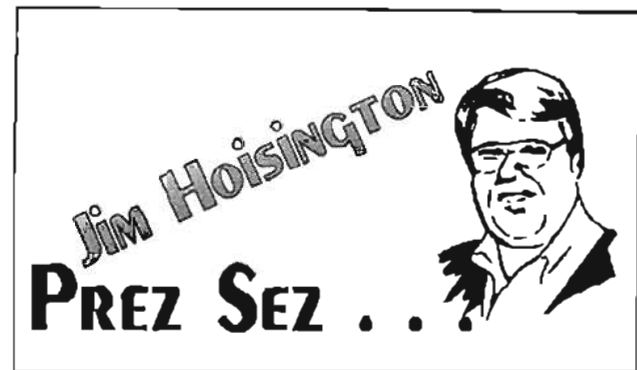
benefits of membership in NTPCUG which he planned to preview at the September Multimedia SIG. When this is converted to videotape format, Dennis' presentation will also be available to advertise the NTPCUG. [Ed. Note: Please see the brief article, Video Spectaculars on page 3 for more details.]

Wandering Volunteers & Bookmarks

Rob Alschbach, our Publicity Director, also has some intriguing new ideas to highlight the Users Group and he plans to implement them at the September meeting. Look for our volunteers to be wearing hats and aprons adorned with the NTPCUG Logo, touting the Users Group to the public and offering handouts with information about the Users Group. Not just at the September meeting, which you may have witnessed, but in the future also.

Claude McClure, our Volunteer Coordinator, developed another idea for the September meeting and those beyond. He has designed a bookmark, to be inserted in the free give-aways at the Booth. The bookmark advertises the Users Group and credits us for our PC magazine and book recycling program.

Mailing List Rented

From time to time, the Users Group rents its mailing list to computer-related vendors for a single-time usage. You should have received a mailing about an event entitled *NT Development Summit 97*. It is scheduled for the last two days of September. The User Group received $250 for the rental.

BBS Service Interruption

On October 18th, Southwestern Bell will be upgrading the telephone equipment that provides service to our BBS. They have sent us a letter warning us of possible minor interruptions on that Saturday.

Jim...

ActivePresenter, Version 1.0 Impressive Presentation Tool For the Web, Teleconferences

By Keith Corder

ActivePresenter is a tool for building presentations and conducting them over the Internet. It can greatly enhance a conference call meeting between several parties in different cities. I can put a presentation on a Web site, then have other participants point to the site URL, and as I flip through presentation slides on my computer, the slides change in their browsers.

In reviewing ActivePresenter, I was very impressed with the quality of the presentations that I could build. Sofware Publishing Corporation (SPC) has done a nice job of including plenty of prebuilt layouts, designs, and color schemes that

Video Spectaculars & 'Dicey' Deadlines

Marsha Drebelbis, Rose Anne Ellison and Dennis Rice have all been working on Multimedia presentations to display the benefits of membership in the North Texas PC Users Group. You may have seen the presentation created by Drebelbis and Ellison at the September 20 meeting. It nearly didn't happen as planned.

Original presentation was created by Ellison and given to Drebelbis to 'burn' on a CD/ROM and convert to videotape for our presentations late in the week. As with any new technology, the process didn't go smoothly and Marsha had much difficulty making her conversion box 'talk' to the VCR. She discovered the source, faulty connecting cables, but the tapes weren't finished until early Saturday morning, September 20, day of the NTPCUG meeting.

Some members may wonder why presentations created with PC's needed to be converted to videotape format if CD/ROMs were available.

Answer is portability. We want to present these "advertisements" for the NTPCUG in many venues: trade shows, association meetings, conferences and classrooms. Videotape is the (current) universal media for such presentations and a monitor and VCR setup is ubiquitous in these settings.

I used to quickly build a good-looking presentation. I put the presentation on a Web server, then pointed three browsers to the presentation URL. Conducting the presentation was easy. As I flipped through my slides, the slide image changed in each of the browsers with no action required from the viewer. A person viewing the presentation has the option of 'toggling' the presentation to be seen either within the browser, or full screen on their monitor.

Well suited for large & small conferences

The full screen format looks terrific. I think this product is well suited for both small group conference calls and large group teleconference-type meetings.

In addition to 'live' presentations, ActivePresenter can publish a presentation in 'static' format. This puts navigation buttons on the presentation, and allows a viewer to walk through the presentation on a Web site on their own. SPC has several examples of static presentations on their Web site.
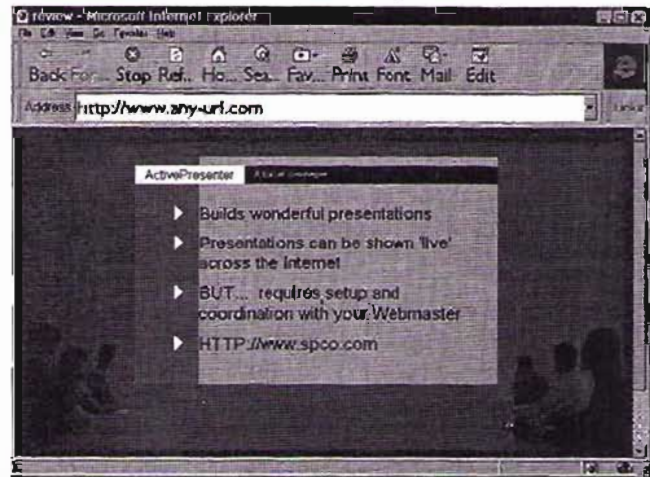
PC's with multimedia capabilities including sound cards and speakers sufficient for large rooms, CD/ROM drives and projectors aren't (yet). It's a lot easier for a volunteer to carry a videotape to a presentation than a PC, speakers and monitor/projector.

It's also a lot less expensive. Most of the presentation/display equipment used at NTPCUG meetings is rented for the day. Cost to rent a VCR and large monitor is much, much less than a projector, amplifier and speakers to do the same presentation via a PC.

Reagan Andrews

ActivePresenter... Ctd. from page 3.

There are three main components to the product, ActivePresenter, which builds the presentation, WebShow Publisher, which puts the presentation on a Web site and controls the slides during a live presentation, and a WebShow browser plugin required to view a presentation. ActivePresenter is a full-featured presentation tool that allows you to build professional quality presentations right out of the box. WebShow Publisher uses FTP to put your presentation on a Web Server, and when you run the presentation gives you navigation buttons to move through your slides. The WebShow browser plugin is available for both Microsoft Internet Explorer and Netscape Navigator. It must be installed by all parties that want to view a live presentation, and is available for free on the SPC Web site.

Need to work with Webmaster

The product documentation very clearly states that you need to work closely with your Webmaster to work out your Web server configuration. You'll need to have the Webmaster add a new MIME type to the Web server to handle the Ac-

tivePresenter presentation files. (The files have an extension of .ap.) You also have to work out the proper HTTP URL for other people to view your presentations, and the proper FTP URL for you to put your presentation on the Web server. This was the area where I ran into problems. I had to take three or four tries at getting my HTTP and FTP URLs configured correctly. The real problem is that you specify these values at installation time. If you get them wrong, you must deinstall and then reinstall the product. SPC really needs to add a feature to the product for FTP configuration.

ActivePresenter is not the only product that can create presentations ready for the Internet. Both Microsoft PowerPoint 97 and Lotus Freelance Graphics 97 do a good job of saving presentations in HTML format and putting them on a Web server. However, they can only do static presentations. ActivePresenter is different in that it allows you to conduct live presentations, dynamically changing the slides that your viewers see.

My suggestion – if you already own PowerPoint 97 or Freelance Graphics 97 - experiment with those products to see how you like publishing your presentations to a Web site. If you don't already own a presentation tool that will publish your presentation as HTML, or if you're convinced of the value of being able to conduct a live presentation over the Internet, give ActivePresenter a try.

ActivePresenter requires Windows 95 or NT 4.0 for creating presentations, and access to a Web server for publishing presentations. The browser plugin for viewing presentations will work with Netscape Navigator or Microsoft Internet Explorer on the Windows 3.1, 95, or NT 4.0 operating systems.

ActivePresenter, Version 1.0
Software Publishing Corporation, $99.95
http://www.spco.com

Keith Corder

September slow? No way since Apple Makes news at dizzy pace with Jobs, Anti-clone-maker decisions and Net PC

Delayed again! Microsoft announced in September that *Windows 98*, latest iteration of the Windows platform for most of us, will be delayed until the 2nd quarter of 1998. Lots of sanctimonious Microsoft talk about wanting to release both the 'full' and 'upgrade' versions simultaneously seen in the media. Also see that Win 95 is still selling very, very well at this time. Don't know if the two are somehow related, or if the beta sent out to 10k users revealed more problems (bugs) than Microsoft thought could be successfully 'cured' by the last, 1st quarter shipping announcement.

Apple really big story In September moves As Jobs takes helm

Apple, Apple, Apple and more Apple Computing this month. I'd hate to think Apple is doing all this on purpose, but, then, Jobs is back and all this craziness provides pretty good copy for the column. Yes, Jobs is really back and now has a real title — interim CEO of Apple Computer, Inc. That was a late September development.

Most interesting aspects are what's happening to the once-vaunted triumvirate composed of Apple, IBM and Motorola. Seems to be flying apart at the seams with Jobs/Apple apparently loosening the ties that bound them all together.

Back to COMDEX/Fall '93, Promise of Competition Between RISCs & Intel

Takes me back to COMDEX/Fall '93 and the Power PC Pavilion where we saw Apple, IBM and Motorola all extolling the new *Power PC* CPU and the *wondrous* consortium they had formed to

revolutionize the industry. All this to really loud (110 dB+) Rock music, but such *unity* was awe-inspiring.

Four years later...

What a difference four years makes. Last month has been filled with various media reports on the activities of a Jobs-led, Apple Computer Company Board of Directors. Frankly, I don't really understand most of the moves and those I do understand don't seem to have any real direction.

First was the decision on Apple's (really Steve Jobs) part to greatly increase licensing fees for the "tepid" new OS 8 release of the Macintosh operating system, followed by stated intention to deny their much delayed *Rhapsody* OS to the clone makers at

all. That may not be all bad — since *Rhapsody* is rumored to be little more than a "port" of the NeXT operating system from Apple's recent acquisition of NeXT from Steve Jobs.

Sinking Ships

Results of the Jobs' interventions are a little less than awe inspiring. That's putting things mildly.

Apple agreed to buy the Power PC Computer Co., who were ru-

The Variety Store

mored to be ready to jump ship for the Wintel platform. Power Computing was seing lukewarm demand for the Macintosh, and figured entering the Wintel camp might help volume. Apple couldn't stand the competition in the Mac arena and offered a lot of cash (hope it isn't Apple stock) to get back the market share Apple lost as result of pricing differentials.

Motorola departs Mac Camp rather than pay Apple's licensing fees

Motorola announced they would rather take a substantial write-off ($95 million) than continue producing *Power PC* powered machines in light of Apple's licensing stand. This is surprising since Motorola produces the RISC-based CPU and has invested significantly in the platform.

IBM not far behind

IBM, third member of the triad, is also rumored to be ready to make a similar announcement as result of the licensing costs and their vision of the platform's future with current state of affairs at Apple.

Intel wins all around

Apple-IBM-Motorola consortium looked like the best bet to put some real pressure on Intel in 1993. Intel appears to win by default in all this. Of all the RISC "hopefuls", only DEC's *Alpha* and the *Power PC* are left after Microsoft announced they were no longer interested in the MIPS CPU platform and Sun really isn't interested in furthering Win-

dows NT's spread for that matter.

Of course, there's the H-P - Intel consortium working on the next "super" CPU to succeed the *Pentium* platform. MIPS may be a different story since they designed a super CPU for handheld PC's running *Windows CE* OS and are a major player in this domain.

Welcome Wintel & Hello, lost causes

Former Macintosh cloners are announcing they will jump into the Wintel PC competition and Apple seems headed for oblivion of a very small "niche" market that will be supported by a declining base of developers.

Already see UMAX ads for Wintel PC's in the media. Can Tatung be far behind?

Couple all this with recent comments/speculation fostered by Jobs that Apple is interested in entering the Network PC market,

possibly at the urging of Ralph Ellison of Oracle who is still trying to drum-up support for any non-Wintel platform that might sting Microsoft and Intel.

Talk about jousting at windmills. Apple can't build a price-competitive *Power PC* Macintosh (clobbered by the cloners) and now wants to enter an even more competitive, thin margin arena?

Some interesting speculation:

- Just how far will Microsoft go to keep Apple *alive* and the FTC at *bay*?

- How loudly is Scott McNealy, SUN CEO, laughing at this turn of events since Apple decided SUN wasn't a suitable buyer?

- Will Oracle's Ralph Ellison hang around long enough to pick up the pieces of Apple at Chapter 11, bargain-basement prices?

- What would Reagan give to be a "fly on the wall" at Apple BOD meetings for the next several months?

No news from AMD, Some 3rd-Party news About Cyrix 6x86 CPUs

Since we're focused on CPU's what's the future for AMD and Cyrix look like this month? Haven't seen any significant press releases on the AMD K6 chips, nor speculation about a possible 266MHz CPU announcement this month. Do know AMD is cranking out the CPU's as fast as they can, but haven't seen anything about the role of FAB 25 yet. (May be looking at the wrong media for this area, come to think of it.)

Cyrix, on the other hand is generating lots and lots of rumors

about the 6x86 M2 (MMX) CPU chips, including rumored 266MHz and 300MHz versions due for release sometime in January or so. This is all through third-party sources and may be wishful thinking or smoke & mirrors. Also hearing lots of rumors that earlier (M1) 6x86 CPU's are finding their way to vendors at very low prices.

There's a caution here for bargain-hunting consumers. Early Cyrix 6x86 CPU's (pre-revision 2.7) that have some significant problems with heating and *Windows NT*. Cyrix had a replacement program for these chips, but a lot may have fallen through the cracks only to show up now at ridiculous prices

As usual, *Caveat Emptor* should rule here.

About these super-fast CPU's and computers in the 'real' PC world

I like the idea of really fast computers. But, I don't spend my money on the latest and fastest CPU powered machines. There are several good reasons for this decision on my part.

What's 'real' speed?

First is reality of speed. I spend most of my computing time writing — that means my PC spends 99% of its time waiting for me to strike a key. I do some graphics and page layout, but I'm not trying to manipulate multi-gigabyte graphics files most of the time. If I were an animator or graphic artist making my living from such manipulations, I could justify the cost differential — maybe.

Is speed worth cost?

Here's why. Price increase between an MMX CPU rated at 166MHz and 200MHz is about $120. User will see about a 5% increase in performance. Move to

a 266MHz Pentium II CPU and the differential in price is almost $700. But, performance is 30% increased *at best*. Most of the time, it will be much less. Blame the CPU vendors for this apparent paradox, it's all in the numbers.

Numbers game v. reality Of typical bus speeds and I/O performance trends

Culprits are bus speed, I/O efficiency and type of computing involved. Vendors are accurately reporting speed *within* the CPU, but not reporting bus speed and impact on I/O. Most PC's are still using a 60MHz or 66MHz bus.

Cyrix kicked this up to 75MHz on some of their CPU's, but the support chips may be operating out of spec. at this speed. Add the impact of 83MHz and 100MHz bus speeds proposed and the support chip vendors may have a hard time keeping pace. This is a growing concern since Intel supposedly has the best support chips, but they are only rated at the 66MHz bus speed common for Intel CPU's.

'Speed' we see is really I/O speed, i.e., faster video cards and SCSI disk systems that can feed data faster than the standard EIDE bus. Remember, the PCI bus runs at 33MHz and any efficiencies vendors can produce are still bound by this limit (now.)

Future will be faster

Expect much faster I/O in the future, but at a premium price similar to that we see now in CPU's.

Sun v. Everybody in struggle Over 'Java' standards with Intel, DEC, Microsoft & Compaq

Remember all the ballyhoo over the "open" Java standard? Sun Microsystems, Inc., proposed Java as an open, platform independent (read that non-Microsoft-controlled) programming language that would cast off the shackles of the Wintel hegemony.

That was then (last year) and this 'now' is Sun's refusal to relinquish ownership of Java to an international standards body proposed by Intel, Digital Equipment Corporation (DEC), Microsoft and Compaq Computer Corp. *The Wall Street Journal* described Sun's decision in a September 12 article that reported Sun's desire to continue ownership via its JavaSoft unit as a "steward" of the language. Sun states they want to make Java an international open standard "as

THE VARIETY STORE

opposed to a closed, proprietary one," according to the *WSJ*.

SUN WANTS 'PURE JAVA' while MICROSOFT ARGUES NEED FOR 'Windows-friendly' LANGUAGE

Language is key here. Sun and Microsoft are in a very heated struggle over Java and its standard form(s) and are using the arena of the press and trade shows as their battleground. At stake are directions Windows implementations of Java will take in the future as well as Sun's continued control over the name.

Sun has mounted an extensive and expensive campaign pushing "pure Java" as the standard. "Pure Java" really doesn't work that well on the Windows platform, living up to (or down to) its reputation for slow operations.

Microsoft, according to *WSJ*, has created its own Java technology in response to the reported poor performance on systems running under Windows. Makes sense to Microsoft (and others) but is seen by Sun's allies as "violating the spirit of Java." If this sounds like some sort of religious struggle, you're not too far off the mark. Programming languages and hardware "icons" seem to attract this sort of adulation among devoted followers convinced in the truth, light and beauty of their convictions.

Developers are left in the middle. Sun wants "pure Java" without interference and developers see need for better Windows performance "Windows-friendly" versions. Best advice? Walk softly when you're in a strange land among hostile giants.

Reagan Andrews

TOASTERS...

If IBM made toasters...
They would want one big toaster where people bring bread to be submitted for overnight toasting. IBM would claim a worldwide market for five, maybe six toasters.

If Xerox made toasters...
You could toast one-sided or double-sided. Successive slices would get lighter and lighter. The toaster would jam your bread for you.

If Radio Shack made toasters...
The staff would sell you a toaster, but not know anything about it. Or you could buy all the parts to build your own toaster.

If Oracle made toasters...
They'd claim their toaster was compatible with all brands and styles of bread, but when you got it home you'd discover the Bagel Engine was still in development, the Croissant Extension was three years away, and that indeed the whole appliance was just blowing smoke.

If Sun made toasters...
The toast would burn often, but you could get a really good cuppa Java.

Does DEC still make toasters?...
They made good toasters in the '80s, didn't they?

If Hewlett-Packard made toasters...
They would market the Reverse Polish Toaster, which takes in toast and gives you regular bread.

If Thinking Machines made toasters...
You would be able to toast 64,000 pieces of bread at the same time.

If Cray made toasters...
They would cost $16 million but would be faster than any other single-slice toaster in the world.

If SGI made toasters...
It would make the bread look like it was toasted. It could also transform rye to wheat and add whatever kind of spread you could imagine, and it would slyly imply credit for making the loaf of bread in the first place.

If Sony made toasters...
The ToastMan, which would be barely larger than the single piece of bread it is meant to toast, can be conveniently attached to your belt.

And, of course--

If Microsoft made toasters...
Every time you bought a loaf of bread, you would have to buy a toaster. You wouldn't have to take the toaster, but you'd still have to pay for it anyway. Toaster '95 would weigh 15,000 pounds (hence requiring a reinforced steel countertop), draw enough electricity to power a small city, take up 95% of the space in your kitchen, would claim to be the first toaster that lets you control how light or dark you want your toast to be, and would secretly interrogate your other appliances to find out who made them. Everyone would hate Microsoft toasters, but nonetheless would buy them since most of the good bread only works with their toasters.

What if Apple made toasters?
The toaster would be really easy to use for people who did not want Microsoft toasters. But, it would occasionally freeze the bread for no reason. Then, you'd have to restart the toaster, ejecting the bread with a paper clip. Next, you'd have to restart the toaster with the darkness extension turned off, just to find out what's wrong, and you'd burn your toast, because you couldn't do anything. Then you would eventually upgrade to a Microsoft toaster.

Submitted By Patrick Dryden
Computerworld senior editor

DOM Disks Released In September

Note: All of these disks are distributed on 1.44M disk only

Prepared by Gene Carleton

Disk 1115AB. *Activity Book 1.02*, (7/97) - Pre-school educational program

Disk 1116. *SpeakOut! for Windows 3.1 v2.1*, (1/97) · Write U.S. Congress

Disk 1117AB. Global Challenge 1.03, (7/97) · Educational Geography Game Win95

Disk 1118. Penny Penguin's Math Bingo 2.5, (9/97) - Educational Math Game

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Disk 1115AB. *Activity Book 1.02*, (7/97) - Pre-school educational program

Activity Book 1.02, Jim Allison, RR2 Box 44 East Road, Bennington VT 05201, Registration Fee: $18.00

Play a series of four activities with Activity Book , a collection of multimedia activities for children and adults. The four activities that make up the program are Coloring, Nitebrite, Dot to Dots, and Fun with Math. The program is easy to use, and fun for small children. The makers of Activity Book have other modules that can be added to the base program. When you register the shareware, you get to select an additional four-page module. Definitely a fun pastime for kids of preschool/kindergarten age.

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS: Windows 3.1 or Windows 95.

To install the program, make a directory on your hard disk, unzip the files to that directory, and "run" or "start" SETUP.COM.

This software was downloaded from the ZD-Net Internet site by Mark Gruner.

This README prepared by ZD-Net & Mark Gruner, edited by Gene Carleton.

Disk 1116. *SpeakOut! for Windows 3.1 v2.1*, (1/97) - Write U.S. Congress

SpeakOut! for Windows 3.1 v2.1, Laser Point, SpeakOut! Registration, P.O. Box 2378, Watsonville, CA 95077, Registration Fee: $19.95
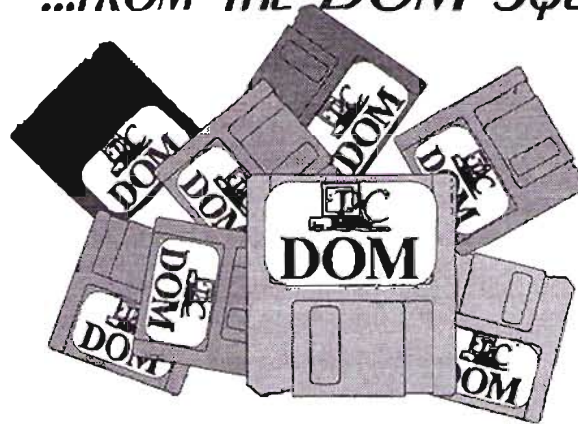
SpeakOut! automates the process of speaking out to the U.S. Congress. Use its database to choose and filter

individuals, committee groups, parties, and so on, then enter a letter to express your opinion about an issue. SpeakOut! not only does a mail-merge to print the letters but can generate address labels to your recipients and return labels for

you. Recipient groups can be retained for future use, and phone numbers for some representatives are included. Your database is updated through the author's Web site. A tutorial is included, but SpeakOut! is easy to understand and use.

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS: Windows 3.1 or Windows95.

To install the program, make a directory on your hard disk. This disk must be in the A: drive. Go to the RUN command and copy this disk to 'yourdir'.

New Disks
...from the DOM Squad

by Mark Gruner

YOURDIR is the directory you just created.

Next, still at the RUN command, type the following:

    SETUP

This software was downloaded from the ZD-Net Internet site by Mark Gruner.

Disk 1117AB. Global Challenge 1.03, (7/97) - Educational Geography Game Win95

Global Challenge 1.03, Cascoly Software, 4528 36th Ave. NE, Seattle WA 98105, Internet: steve@cascoly.com, Registration Fee: $20.00

Global Challenge is a first-rate educational tool intended to help teach geography and geographical facts through a series of quizzes. It offers a challenging learning environment where you decide how easy or difficult to make the game. As you progress through each quiz, the program remembers your responses and tailors future games to suit your skill level. Over a trillion possible question combinations are offered, covering about 250 countries, in more than a dozen informational categories. No matter how often you play, it's doubtful you'll ever see the same exact question twice. Particular countries can also be included by changing the difficulty level. The shareware version limits the quizzes to five categories: Population , Religions, Languages, Capitals, and Flags. Registration removes this limitation. Global Challenge will definitely make learning geography enjoyable.

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS: Windows 95.

To install the program, make a directory on your hard disk. This disk must be in the A: drive. Go to the RUN command and copy this disk to 'yourdir'.

YOURDIR is the directory you just created.
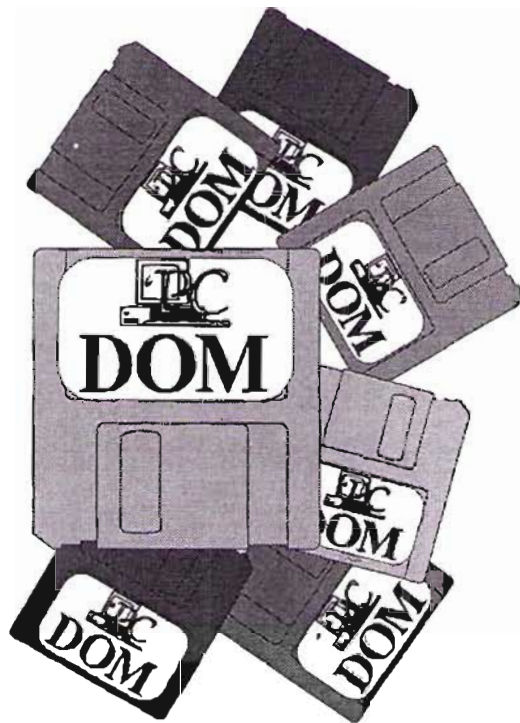
Next, still at the RUN command, type the following:

    A:SPLICE A: C:\yourdir

Splice will expand the file SETUP.EXE and copy it to 'yourdir'.

After the file has been copied, go to 'yourdir' and type SETUP in the RUN command block.

This software was downloaded from the ZD-Net Internet site by Mark Gruner.

This README prepared by ZD-Net & Mark Gruner, edited by Gene Carleton.

Disk 1118. Penny Penguin's Math Bingo 2.5, (9/97) - Educational Math Game

Penny Penguin's Math Bingo, LatticeWork Software, P.O. Box 362, Lafayette Hill, PA 19444, Registration Fee: $9.95 + $3.00 S/H

Penny Penguin's Math Bingo challenges children to solve basic math problems. It is a multimedia game designed to teach addition,

subtraction, multiplication, and division. Using cute animations and sound effects, this Bingo-like game pits a single player against Penny Penguin or a second player. If the answer appears on your Bingo card as you solve problems, you can fill in that square with a bingo chip. The first player to complete a row wins. This evaluation version lets you choose number recognition or basic addition. Registration adds modules for subtraction, multiplication, and division. As in regular Bingo, you might have to wait a while for a number that appears on your card. This is not a fast-paced game, but if you're looking for a low-key math game without pressure, this is a good one to try.

This disk contains both a Win95 version (32-bit) named PPMB95.ZIP and a Windows 3.1 version (16-bit) named PPMB31.ZIP.

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS: Windows 3.1 or Windows 95 as appropriate and a sound card.

To install the program, create a directory on your hard disk, unzip the appropriate ZIP file to that directory, and run or start IN-STALL.EXE.

This software was downloaded from the ZD-Net Internet site by Mark Gruner.

This README prepared by ZD-Net & Mark Gruner, edited by Gene Carleton.

Calling all ShareWare & FreeWare! Volunteer... And Get Paid for a Job Well Done!

Each month, the NTPCUG DOM (Disk of the Month) has an on-going need to find new shareware disks for the following month. The best way for this to happen is when our members VOLUNTEER to download new shareware programs. You may have found a new shareware program on a local BBS or the Internet, copied one from a CD-ROM disk you own, purchased a new disk from another shareware vendor or you may have a favorite shareware utility that makes your computing simpler each day.

VOLUNTEER to share it with us!!

Your NTPCUG is an organization founded and run with volunteer effort and spirit. What better way to support our Users Group than to volunteer to donate some shareware disks from time to time? Send one a month...or five! We encourage you to donate something each month; it's amazing what one or two donations can add up to over a month's time!! It takes so little time and we can use your assistance.

There are two easy ways to VOLUNTEER and deliver your shareware to the DOM. First, you can deliver your donation on an old disk and drop it off at the DOM booth during our monthly meeting date. (The DOM booth is located in the far right corner of the basement area during the computer vendor show.) If you prefer the "High Tech" method, you can attach a zipped shareware file to a private E-Mail message (put it to my attention) on the TBBS board and I will take it from there. This is an easy and enjoyable way to VOLUNTEER each month and it only takes a few minutes.

README Help available

Furthermore, if you have a problem preparing a README file, don't despair...ask me for help and I'll pitch in to assist you! You don't have to be an author or technical writer!

Come on.. pitch in...VOLUNTEER today! If you're new to our group and don't understand shareware, I especially look forward to speaking with YOU!!

Mark Gruner
DOM Squad Leader
(972) 964-8147

Selected SIG Reports . . .

News and meeting notes of Special Interest Groups
(Material for this column should be sent to NTPCUG BBS SIG Upload Area or to Connie Andrews, Special Interest Group Editor, before the 10th of the month)

Access SIG

In October, **Larry Linson** will present a review and demonstration of the *Total Access SourceBook* from FMS, Inc. - the best selling source code library for Access Developers, available in versions for Access 2, 95, and 97. We all, over time, find that we do the same functions from project to project, and save some time by copying code from one database to another. This useful product makes that much easier: it contains VBA code to perform a wide range of functions that developers may need (much that we may not have ourselves encountered on other projects) from controlling the Access environment to using the Windows API functions, a powerful Code Browser to find and access that code, and a versatile Code Repository · you can add your own code or modify and resave any of the supplied code, too.

Another review of an FMS, Inc. product is planned for November: *Total Access Components - Custom Controls for Microsoft Access*. This product, too, is available in versions for Access 2, 95, and 97. The Access 95/97 version contains 27 custom (ActiveX) controls for a variety of purposes. You can use them to create forms and reports that some might call fancy, but I'd call user-friendly; improve data display and data input; enhance the functionality of your forms; incorporate multimedia effects; and easily incorporate Windows features such as managing the clipboard, INI files, a professional About Box, the common dialogs, and even the system registry. Larry Linson will demonstrate and discuss selected components.

Coming in December, "The Great Crystal Reports Demo and Developer Product Giveaway" -- a joint production of the Delphi, Access, and ActiveX SIGs. We'll be drawing for a copy of *Crystal*

FROM THE SIG COORDINATOR

The following are changes/additions/needs that the NTPCUG has made to the SIG's.

Changes:

— C++ Language (Formerly C++ /Advanced & /Beginning)
(Contact Howard Harkness)

Groups Looking for Help in Leading their SIGs:

— Introduction to the PC (Contact Alex Lilley @ (972) 517-7430 h]

— Visual Basic (Contact Jim Carter @ (972) 235-5968 h]

— Dallas Corel (Contact Marsha Drebelbis (214) 951-0266]

— Hardware Solutions (Contact Charles Miller (903) 938-4220 h]

The requirements for forming a SIG are:

Leadership — at least one individual willing to lead the SIG, and an assistant.

Membership — at least eight individuals willing to attend the SIG fairly consistently.

SIG

Reports Pro and, at least, a copy of *VB5 Pro*, maybe even a complete Microsoft *Visual Studio Pro*. Look here and in the Delphi SIG Notes for details, as they are firmed up.

Larry says, "I need a break. How about volunteering as a guest speaker?" Any subject related to Access is of interest, whether for beginners or more advanced users: tutorials on features of any version of Microsoft Access, reviews of books about Access, or Access-related product reviews. Let any of the SIG leaders know if you are willing to speak.

Between meetings, check out our local MS ACCESS message conference on the NTPCUG BBS (electronic bulletin board system). Telephone numbers are inside the back cover of this issue. It's where we ask and answer questions, post sample code, and keep in touch between monthly meetings.

We look forward to seeing you at the October meeting. Come join us!

Larry Linson

ActiveX Application Developers SIG

Our October speaker is **Jim Hart**, one of the leaders of the VB SIG and an active participant in a number of others (did you see his Recommended Tip in the Corel section of the September issue of the *PC News?*). Jim will tell us about an application that he's done using ActiveX/OLE technology to combine Visual Basic, Microsoft Word, and Excel. Jim has spoken to the Access SIG in the past and his presentation was very well received.

In November, **Glynn Brooks** will speak about his use of ActiveX Documents for simple distribution of software over an Intranet or over the Internet. Members who call the NTPCUG BBS may have seen a num-

ber of Glynn's informative and useful messages there. We're really looking forward to his presentation.

Coming in December, "The Great Crystal Reports Demo and Developer Product Giveaway" -- a joint production of the Delphi, Access, and ActiveX SIGs. We'll be drawing for a copy of *Crystal Reports Pro* and, at least, a copy of *VB5 Pro*, maybe even a complete Microsoft *Visual Studio Pro*. Those will be nice Christmas presents, won't they? Look here and in the Delphi SIG notes for details, as they are firmed up.

The ActiveX Application Developers SIG addresses issues of developing applications under the Component Object Model (COM) using ActiveX Controls and other ActiveX components. We still ask and answer a few questions about Open Database Connection (ODBC) technology, too. As hot as the Internet is, our topics aren't necessarily about "Internetting", since ActiveX controls work equally well on the desktop and in client/server environments. That's one of the attractive features: one type of control, usable in many environments.

Come join us in October, and keep on coming in the future. We'll do our best to make it interesting and productive for you.

Larry Linson

Assembler SIG

Our September presentation was on Win32 Assembler Programming. In spite of the Microsoft activities, we had a respectable crowd on hand. Win32 programming, with it's flat model address space, is a programmer's delight. There are some features in the Win32 API that are extremely useful - such as memory mapped files. The APIs, while being 'C centric', are accessible to programmers using any language, from Assembler to Visual Basic.

SIG

SIG LEADER LISTING

Legend: h = Home #, w = Work #
M = Metro #

Internet–Advanced Ctd.
Doug Gorrie .... (972) 618-8002 h
..........................., (214) 464-4568 w
Erik Leaseburg ... (817) 265-7550 hM

Internet–WEB Developers
Mark Camp .... (214) 583-9012 w
David Maxwell .... (214) 977-7584 w
.... (972) 299-6295 h

Introduction to the PC
Alex Lilley .... (972) 517-7430 h
.... (972) 960-4276 w
Bob Russell .... (972) 422-4269 h

Investors
Dick Richtman .... (972) 437-0322 h

JAVA
Art English .... (972) 567-2253

Lotus *Notes* & *Domino*
B.J. Shultz ....

MS *Word for Windows*
Beverly Kurtin ..... (817) 268-2071 hM
Jan Patton .... (903) 886-6249 h
.... (903) 886-6466 w
Bob Rice .... (214) 885-0202 w

Microsoft *FrontPage*
Robert Masters ... (972) 462-7490 hw
Jeff Cooper ....

Microsoft Networking
Bruce Wynn .... (972) 335-2507 h
.... (972) 756-7832 w
Richard Miles...... (214) 767-7315 w
.... (972) 296-5356 h
Gil Brand............. (214) 508-8370 w
.... (214) 341-7182 h

Microsoft Visual C++/MFC
Art English .... (972) 567-2253

MultiMedia
Dennis Rice .... (972) 680-8299 h

Networking
Mike Momen .... (972) 238-1244 h
.... (972) 915-2158 w
Leroy Tennison
Francis Bright

Paradox
Tom Browning .... (214) 692-9784 h
Fred Williams...... (972) 492-1315 h
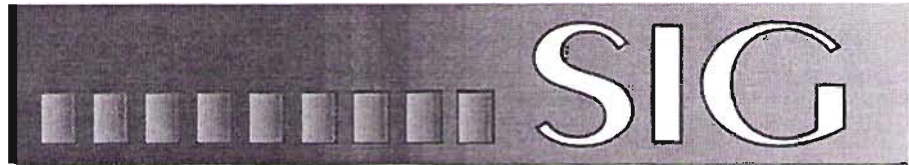
As noted last previously, our topic in October will be on the Year 2000 impact on PC's. We hope to see you in October - as usual, suggestions for future presentations are always welcome.

Frank Cavallito

C++ Language SIG

The Beginner's C++ SIG and the Advanced C/C++ are being combined into a single SIG, which will be called the C++ Language SIG, and will meet at noon. The new SIG leader is **Howard Harkness**. The general format will be approximately a one-half hour presentation on the C++ language, followed by a Q&A session, with occasional presentations by guest speakers. Suggestions for topics may be sent to harkness@skeptics.org.

Howard Harkness

Dallas Corel SIG

Font Management and the World of .PDF

We are pleased that **Shelly Baker** from Adobe Systems has accepted our invitation to speak at our October Program. She will present *Adobe Type Manager 4* and also *Adobe Acrobat 3*. At 9:00 a.m. she will be in Rm. 7007 with our SIG to show Adobe Type Manager. We will adjourn at 10:00 a.m. to the first floor Main Auditorium for her presentation of Acrobat there, since we expect so many will want to join us. Drawings for free products will be held each hour. Have your NTPCUG membership card handy.

You probably loaded Adobe Type Manager (ATM) from your Ventura 7 CD, if you didn't already have version 4.0. Perhaps you even upgraded to ATM Deluxe so you can enjoy all the features. We Corel software users have access to zillions of fonts and need all the help

we can get to manage them efficiently. ATM is a utility designed for that. Even if you use only a few fonts on a regular basis, you need ATM for rasterizing screen fonts for Type 1. Bring your font management questions for Shelly.

Use of the Internet has brought more awareness of Adobe Acrobat and its .PDF files. Acrobat is a fast way to publish any document on an Intranet, the Web, or CD-ROM. You use Acrobat to create, enhance and read Portable Document Format (PDF) documents. A document converted to .PDF is cross-platform and it retains the look and layout of the original, regardless of the system it is read on. You enhance .PDF documents by adding interactivity such as links, forms and movies. Password protect your files, too. The *Acrobat Reader* is distributed free of charge. Pretty neat, huh? Check it out in October.

SIG
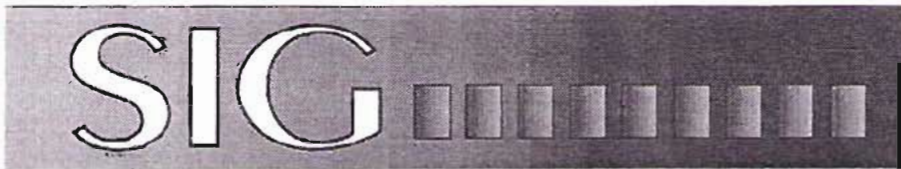
September Program in Review

If all went as expected, professional presentations creator and SIG member Rose Anne Ellison demonstrated how to create a multimedia presentation with the new Presentations 8 module, found in Corel *WordPerfect Suite 8*. The content of her presentation showcased NTPCUG for the purpose of enticing new members to join. It will be shown each month in the Vendor Area on the first floor. Since the October newsletter deadline is prior to the September meeting, more will follow on this in next month's issue.

CorelDRAW Seminars and Boot Camps

Unleashed Productions (that's our friends Foster Coburn and Peter McCormick, authors of *CorelDRAW 7, The Official Guide*) presents one-day or 3-day intensive CorelDRAW training. For the 1998 schedule in various U.S. cities, call 1-800-736-8973 or visit http://www.unleash.com.

Recent Programs at Dallas Corel SIG

1997:

January - Web page design with Corel Web.Graphics Suite

February - Photo Retouching in Corel-PHOTO-PAINT 7

March - VENTURA 7 Demonstration

April - CorelDRAW 7 & PHOTO-PAINT 7 in real world uses

May - Corel SIG Members Showcase Their Work

June - Productivity in DRAW 5, 6 & 7

July - CorelDREAM 3-D 7

August - Corel Corporation presented WebMaster Suite, Lumiere and Click & Create

September - Presentations 8

Marsha Drebelbis

Delphi SIG

Now that the big Microsoft event has come and gone, we will be able to get back to looking deeper into Delphi 3.0. Seems like I am always finding something new and amazing each time I open Delphi 3.0. All this and considering I have not even attempted to use any of the really bleeding edge stuff like Active X controls.

I was really looking for a way out of software development before Delphi. I now find it is once again fun and interesting to solve problems without spending way too much effort dealing with interfaces.

Been dealing with a hand held bar code scan gun on one of my current projects. Seems this little hummer is a 386 DOS-based system that even has a PCMCIA slot for adding either a flash or CMOS memory card. Can't use Delphi for that one. Bummer!
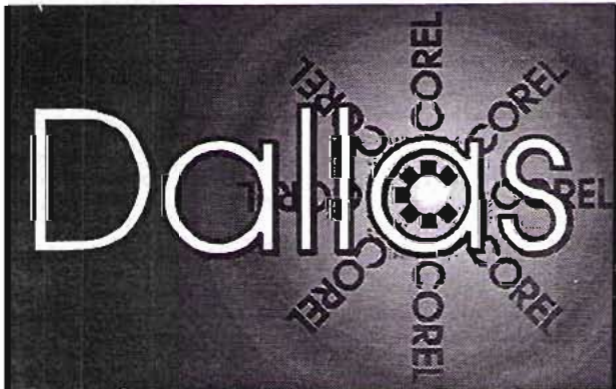
Dallas Corel Is A SIG Of North Texas PC Users Group

The scan gun has been interesting since I am once again back where you have to worry about seriously limited resources. Plus, it is still amazing to press the on/off button on the scan gun and see the DOS c: prompt display on the little LCD screen! All this is housed in a package about twice the size of your average cell phone.

But what's all that got to do with Delphi? Seems very few single-language, single-platform projects do much to interest me, so I'm always turning up some rock that has something just a little out of the ordinary under it! Delphi is playing a major role in the bar code project, but is only a piece of the puzzle.

Like I said before, as soon as the thing is fit for prime time, I'll drag it along to some future meeting and demo it as a real world project. I think it will go a long way in demonstrating how Delphi works when used for something totally different (as Monte Python was fond of saying).

I've got a little cell phone equipment inventory management system I'll bring along this month. It demonstrates why, when a particular new feature is key to an application, the latest release of a development platform can mean the difference between success and failure of a project. This one started in Delphi 1.0 but was forced to go to 3.0 because of one simple but key SQL query!

I'm waiting to hear from anyone else interested in doing a presentation. I would hope that we would be hearing from Frank Cavallito in the near future as he seems to be doing interesting things with Delphi. Meanwhile, come on by and let's pry the lid off of a couple of interesting Delphi 3.0 objects and have a closer look.

Fred Williams

DOS/Operating Systems SIG

Since *Windows 98* is delayed again — announced as "shipping in the 2nd quarter of 1998," maybe we need to keep looking at Win 95 even more intensely since we'll have it to play with
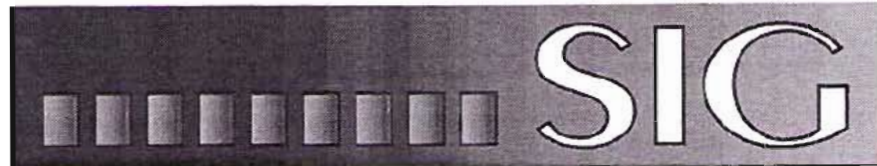
longer than originally thought. There are a lot of questions still unanswered about running Win 96 OSR2 (the 'for sale only with a new PC' version in the vendor area) and FAT 32.

And, Win 3.1x still isn't "dead." There are a lot of users out there who are resisting Microsoft's 'Siren Calls' and refusing to switch away from a stable, known system for the mysteries of '95. They say they are getting their work done in Win 3.1x and don't see any good reason to switch at this time.

Those days may be numbered for some users with "older" hardware that may disintegrate before their eyes and only be replaceable with newer hardware that can only run under Win '95. It's happening as I write this piece. Vendors just refuse to upgrade the legacy

software and hardware and users with a 'broken' system may find themselves on a dead-end avenue

Problem here is early DOS restrictions on disk size and coupled with similar BIOS restrictions in earlier motherboards that can't/don't recognize hard disks larger than 528 MB. That's one of the reasons I encourage upgrading both to the latest standards. It's almost impossible to find disks smaller than 800 MB now and anticipated life spans are falling rapidly as the quality/$$$ crunch continues.

One, intermediate, answer is one of the disk managers that act as BIOS drivers and allow the larger disks to be utilized. Problem is how long such drivers will be recognized under Windows versions coming down the road. 3.1x can work with most of them, Win 95 with a lot of them, but nobody knows what Win 98 will do to them at this stage.

Since motherboards have entered the 'commodity' realm, point becomes 'Moot.' Saw a MB/CPU combination with Cyrix 6x86 P200 selling for $130 in the vendor area at the last NTPCUG meeting, and was tempted. Wasn't 'MMX' compatible CPU, but would do quite well in a non-graphics (most of us) machine. If user is lucky, i.e., doesn't have a Gateway2000, Packard-Bell or AST PC, might be easiest way to enter the contemporary PC arena.

We'll talk about when users should make such moves at the October DOS Operating Systems Meeting in addition to the usual free-for-all, Q & A interchange and our SWAG* session. We will have a drawing for one or more door prizes, perhaps even a copy of Jim Hoisington's treasure-trove, *IBM Top View* copies. Be sure to attend this gala celebration — you might win a videotape on the "History of the PICK Operating System."

Reagan Andrews

Graphics SIG

We are again cutting things close to the wire in the hopes that Reagan can get this into the October newsletter. It is extremely difficult trying to coordinate things a month in advance! The latest news flash is that at the last moment Brian Edgin from Micrografx again came up with a magnificent idea for a program. So without further ado, we hereby pronounce October "Window's

* SWAG – Scientific, Wild-A__ed, Guesses – nickname for Army Intelligence Reports, circa Vietnam.

SIG

Draw" month. Draw is Micrografx "low end" graphics program. Officially known as *Window's Draw 6 Print Studio*, it is a basic program consisting of an image editing program, a complete greeting card program, tons of clipart (53,000 images), a Web design program with full Wizard help, Media Manager to help control all the images, a 3D graphics program, and of course a Draw program.

Yes, I am being tongue in cheek. While Webtricity gives the user more raw power, Draw makes it easy. But don't take my word for it, come to the SIG and see this fantastic program.

In future months we are still planning on having a special showing of *Simply 3D Version 3*. I still can't say anything about it, but the folks at Micrografx seem to be enjoying testing it. All I can get from them when I call them on the phone is "I can't tell you about what I am doing but you should see this.". We also hope to have a showing in the big auditorium in the November time frame if we can get together with Timothy. The best place to find out about the SIG is on the Web page. With so much late breaking news, it is the easiest way for us to relay not only what we will be doing, but also any changes in the schedule. In addition, you can view some of the artwork created with the programs seen in the SIG.

Neal Berkowitz

INTERNET SIG - BEGINNING

September 20th will be an "off" month for the Beginning Internet SIG due to Microsoft having its Technology Tour meeting in the Infomart Auditorium. For more information on the Tour, see our Web page at www.ntpcug.org.

On October 11th, we anticipate having a demonstration by Mark Camp of how to set up and use Windows 95's built-in Dial-Up Networking features to connect to your Internet Service Provider (ISP). Win95 has that ability, but setting it up and using it can be perplexing, so Mark will clarify that process. Such connectivity is needed before you can "surf the Net", and is not provided with all Internet software.

If you use or are interested in using this feature of Win95, join us to learn how.

The primary purpose of the Beginning Internet SIG is to explain the Internet to those unfamiliar with it. This includes such things as how to choose and connect to an Internet Service Provider (ISP), what software options are available, what hardware is needed, and how to decipher all those confusing Internet acronyms and buzzwords. Although we have several "prepared" sessions and speakers, look for general Q&A sessions (Question and Answer) periodically, too.

We hope to see you on October 11th!!

Erik Leaseburg, Doug Gorrie & Kiff Barnes

INTERNET SIG - Advanced

In October, we hope to have a special presentation by Chett Rubbenstein, Regional Manager with Pencom System's Web Works division. Web Works specializes in advanced Internet and Intranet development using leading-edge Web development technologies.

They focus not just on great looking Web pages, but on getting your information to both customers and employees -- meeting your business needs internally and externally. *Extranet* applications might include catalog sales and customer support systems; *Intranet* uses include access to "Legacy" information stored in various data base systems.

Chett is finalizing a presentation for the upcoming Comdex event in Las Vegas,

and has indicated an interest in giving us an opportunity to hear it early. His topic will address how to migrate existing client/server systems to the Intranet (internal) and Extranet (external). As past VP of Internet Development with NationsBank, Chett has years of practical experience upon which to base his discussion. We look forward to learning from Chett's experience.

I should note that as we go to press, Chett's availability is not yet certain. Our Web page will reflect the current status as we get close to our October 11th meeting.

Separately, it is with great sadness that we report the relocation of SIG Leader **Pat Hykkonen** to a new position in Austin. He has joined Tivoli Systems as a Customer Service Engineer, starting at the end of September. We know it is a good move for him or he would not have found it worth the separation from our monthly NTPCUG meetings.

Pat will still be easy to find, though. Knowing that members might want to wish him well, he changed his e-mail address to pat@hykkonen.net -- hard to miss him now, huh? Please send him a note of thanks for the many excellent presentations he has done in the past.

Pat's departure leaves an opening for at least two assistants in the Advanced Internet SIG. Tom O'Keefe would appreciate help in locating and lining up speakers. I'm sure *many* of you have resources along these lines, so please step forward and offer at least *some* of your time and talents.

The Advanced Internet SIG addresses topics and issues of interest to experienced Internet users, who are looking for more in-depth content. Sessions address such topics as IP addressing, Domain Name Services, Internet phone and teleconferencing capabilities and tools, basic Web page development, Web server options and features, network and data security, search engines, and more.

Sessions include time to address member's questions. Answers may come

—

from SIG leaders, session presenters, or from other attendees in the audience.

We encourage you to join with us October 11th.

Tom O'Keefe, Erik Leaseburg,
and Doug Gorrie

Introduction to the PC SIG

The following is the tentative schedule for SIG classes that will be offered as an Introduction to the PC during the next listed months. Classes can be taken in any order suitable to the individual student's schedule. Printed notes are provided during classes.

October 11, 1997

- ❖ 9:00   Class 5
  Graphics for the PC

- ❖ 10:00   Class 6
  Word Processors

- ❖ Noon   Class 7
  Spreadsheet Programs

- ❖ 1:00   Class 8
  Other Software for the PC

November 15, 1997

- ❖ 9:00   Class 9
  Hardware for the PC

- ❖ 10:00   Class 10
  Printers for the PC

- ❖ Noon   Class 11
  Overview of Quicken Accounting Software

- ❖ 1:00   Class 12
  Modems & Telecommunications

- ❖ 2:00   Class 12a
  NTPCUG Bulletin Board System (BBS)

December 13, 1997

- ❖ 9:00   Class 13
  Overview of Microsoft Windows

- ❖ 10:00   Class 14
  Overview of Multimedia Software & Hardware
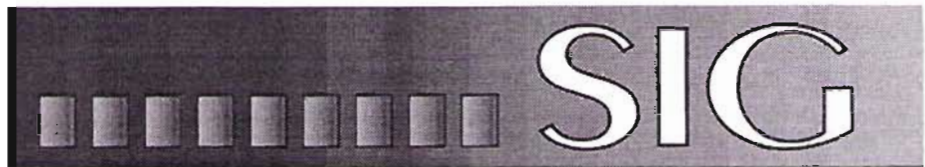
- ❖ Noon   Class 15
  Disk of the Month (DOM)

- ❖ 1:00   Class 16
  PC's Into the 21st Century

January, 1998*

- ❖ 9:00   Viruses and Their Prevention

February, 1998*

- ❖ 9:00   Class 1
  Introduction to the SIG and the Personal Computer

- ❖ 10:00   Class 2
  Working with Files & Directory Structures

- ❖ Noon   Class 3
  Disk Operating System (DOS) - Part I

- ❖ 1:00   Class 4
  DOS - Part II

* These dates are subject to change. Check your *PC NEWS* and/or the NTPCUG BBS for corrected dates before the meetings.

Alex Lilley

MS Word for Windows

The New *WordArt*

WordArt has been around almost as long as Word for Windows itself. The first version appeared along with Word 2.x. It was a fairly straightforward program. All one had to do was select Insert|Objects|WordArt and fairly limited - if impressive for their time - selections presented themselves.

Being a shared application, WordArt came up in its own application window, a point which confused many users, so with the next release (6.x, numbered to

catch up with the Mac versions) WordArt became a bit more tightly integrated with the program itself.

It was still necessary to use Insert|Objects|WordArt, but this time you had to look for WordArt 1 or 2. Just a tad confusing, but nothing that the average users couldn't handle.

Nothing much changed with Office 95's Word 7. In fact virtually nothing changed. And then came Office 97 and that changed everything..

I realize that not everyone of you reading this article are going to trade up to the latest and greatest, but for anyone doing more than basic word processing...well, enough has been changed with a true 32-bit version to make it at least worth considering.

As I pondered what to write about this month I had to use WordArt to gussy up a mailer that's going out to a stroke support group. I decided to play around with the WordArt gallery. To say I was blown away by the thirty BASIC gallery items is an understatement.

For the first time I'm able to do what I really WANT to do with WordArt.

Unfortunately Microsoft didn't do one itty-bitty thing: they didn't make Wor-

Microsoft **Word 97**

SIG
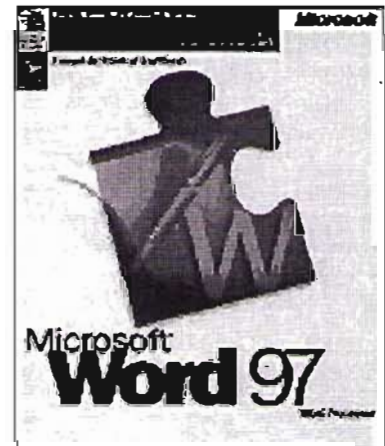
dAn available as part of the "Save as HTML." Oh how wonderful that would have been, but since the current HTML language doesn't support it, there's jolly little that can be done about it.

Ever get tired of seeing the term HTML and wondering what it stands for? Hypertext Markup Language. That's what makes the Web go 'round. So basically, no HTML, no Web would be possible. Ask about it at the next meeting and I'll show you how basically simple something so complex really is.

WordArt Gallery

This is something brand new in Office 97 and it is, in a word, SEXY. I was looking for a title "Different Strokes" to fit inside the text that had been created. Here are the steps I used to unveil the new gallery:

View, Toolbars, WordArt. There I discovered a slightly skewed letter A at the far left of the new WordArt toolbar. Clicking on it revealed the 30 BASIC gallery items. My first choice was unimpressive, so with the WordArt selected (which means that it has sizing handles around it), I clicked on the third icon (another tilted letter A). I selected a better-looking title from the gallery.

NOW the fun began. I had chosen something in black and white. I really had wanted something in color but I liked the style.

So I started playing around with the formatting possibilities. Oh had I known what I was getting myself into! I emerged an hour later with just EXACTLY what I wanted. The formatting box has six tabs: Color and Lines, Size, Position, Wrapping (truly sexy), Picture, and Text Position.

The WordArt toolbar has TEN selections, including one that allows you to freely rotate the object.

The hardest part was limiting myself to two WordArt titles because I wanted to include a largish piece of clipart as a fill when I ran out of text.

By the time you read this, we will have already covered the topic in the SIG.

As usual, we had an extended question and answer period. I am so grateful that so many of you know the answers that I don't. It is truly becoming more and more of a cooperative effort!

Okay, I've been warning you that we're going to be changing times for the SIG. By the time the next issue comes out we should know when the new time will be. We'll have it announced in plenty of time for everyone to know the new hours.

As of this writing I am trying to set us up for 8 to 10 or 9 to 11. The informal opinion seems to be "whatever" is okay with the SIG. I hope to have made a tentative announcement of the time during last month's SIG meeting. We

should be making the move in either December or January.

I hope to see y'all on October 11!

Beverly Kurtin
bevku@who.net
817.268.2071 Metro Voice
817.268.2799 Metro FAX

Paradox SIG

I've made the initial effort to establish communication with Corel concerning a Users Group support contact. Marsha Drebelbis, the Corel Graphics SIG Leader, has been a big help in the effort. Marsha told me that Corel is very supportive of users groups. Vendor support of users groups is something that appears to becoming more of an exception than the rule of late.

Anyhow, this is the initial effort to also secure a copy of the seemingly illusive Paradox 8.0. 8.0 is the first Corelized version of Paradox. I've only read the somewhat skimpy marketing blurb resident on the Corel Web site (www.corel.com) and have no further information about Paradox 8.0 than is present there.

I'm looking for big improvements in bug recognition and fixes, as a minimum, from Corel. I still feel that Borland Paradox Windows support was some of the lamest of the lame. If Corel does not improve Paradox support, I feel market share will continue to slip away.

Although my development efforts are becoming more and more Delphi-centric, I still find myself popping open Paradox on many occasions. I'm using Paradox interactively to create or manipulate tables on the SQL Server, whip out a quick and dirty report to answer a one-time question, or to perform some other high priority, low resource intensive project task.

Just today I needed some way to manipulate some order record status codes in the SQL Server database under development. Seems the Power Builder code is not yet ready for prime time.

So, I fired up Paradox and had a functional order update form designed and ready to use in less than half an hour. It ain't pretty, but it does the job just fine.

Tom Browning is pretty much running the Paradox show now and is the Official Paradox SIG Leader, and I am now the official Paradox SIG Go'fer. This is a move that is long overdue.

I'll keep doing the SIG notes for as long as I can, but life does have its pressures. Especially when yours truly has a nasty habit of standing up when he ought to shut up!

Come on by this month and see what Tom has in store for us. He may even get to actually use the "new" SIG Computer that has been rumored to exist for many months now.

Fred Williams

Pro SIG

A recruiter announced a job opening that she was trying to fill. Seems a local company just discovered that they have a Y2K problem in a big way. Since they let their last programmer go during a downsizing 10 years ago, they were willing to pay big bucks for someone who could modify their Autocoder programs. Next month we demonstrate keypunching techniques for those wanting to apply for the job.

Jim Hoisington

SQL Server SIG

As promised, we will be discussing SQL Server Administration '101'. Erin Welker will be covering such basics as the installation and configuration decisions that the SQL Administrator must make both before and after installing SQL Server - the first tasks many SA's perform - and how to create databases and devices while managing hard disk space.

Also to be covered, perhaps at a later date, will be issues that arise when planning for database access and creating and managing different types of user accounts, considerations and procedures for implementing the various security modes, how and why to assign permissions, data backups and troubleshooting common problems.

In November, Steven DeSalvo will be discussing SQL Server and Performance Monitor. There are specific tasks that can be performed by Performance Monitor to detect and solve SQL Server problems and achieve better performance. Join us in November for an indepth discussion of these options.

Ada Finigan

Visual Basic SIG - Beginning

The October meeting scheduled for October 11, 1997 will be led by our Assistant SIG leader, **Jim Hart**. Jim's topic will be based on his recent experience with data bound controls in Visual Basic 5.0. Thanks to Microsoft, we now have a copy of the Enterprise edition of Visual Basic 5.0 running on the SIG teaching computer. If you are needing help with Visual Basic 5.0, this would be an excellent opportunity to ask your questions.

Last month, Microsoft presented information on the latest Visual Tools from members of the Visual development team at these presentations. I will have to report the results in next month's newsletter as my deadline for this month is prior to that meeting.

Last month, we continued our discussion of the Visual Basic 5.0 Integrated Development Environment (IDE) em-

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A QUICK NOTE FROM THE PC NEWS PUBLISHER

The PC News is now accepting SIG Notes across the Internet! Address is:

reagana@swbell.net

Send your SIG Notes as attachments to your E-mail message and please heed the following concerning word processing formats and Long File Names.

You've got a stable installation of *Windows 95* or *NT 4.0* and the absolute latest version of your favorite, super, 32-bit word processor? Everything works well together and you're basking in the warm glow?

That's great!

But... Please, please, please don't submit your SIG notes or articles with Long File Names (LFN's), or in the latest version of your word processor if the vendor changed file formats. The *PC News* layout and formatting is still being done via *Ventura Publisher 4.2*

which definitely won't deal with LFN's and most of the latest word processor versions. That's especially true for *Microsoft Office 97* which was Microsoft's latest file-format switch in the *Word* series.

Do we enjoy being archaic? No.

We haven't upgraded to *Ventura 7* — yet — and the 5.0 version was so unstable and buggy that I reinstalled 4.2 after a number of unpleasant surprises. I still rely on an "old" DOS-based file manager, *Norton Commander*, which also doesn't handle LFN's gracefully. When I convert fully to 32-bit applications and utility software, the story may be different, but for the present, stick to the "antique" DOS 8.3 file naming convention and word processor versions *Word 7* (Office 95 version) can convert to *Word for Windows 2.0* format.

Of course, ASCII is always welcome.

Reagan Andrews

SIG

phasizing the new features in Visual Basic 5.0.

Bring your questions on Beginning Visual Basic to our meeting beginning at 8:00 AM on Saturday, October 11, 1997 at the Infomart. Check the overheads in the Vendor Area for the correct room assignments.

Jim Carter

Windows Application SIG

In October the Windows Apps SIG will continue the topic of the September meeting when we covered profiles. Profiles permit the user to set up custom desktops for different people. Sure your three year old wants Barney wallpaper. Now you can give it to her and still keep your Star Wars scene intact on your desktop.

But there are a great deal of other things you can use profiles for. With a bit of tweaking with the Power Toys, you can actually create Windows with a bit of security enabled based on user ID. If all goes well, we will cover both the Toys and security. November is still open for suggestions as to what we want to cover. December is tentatively scheduled for basic Windows NT for those who have not seen it yet. By then we figure Neal will have the bugs worked out of his laptop and it will be possible to show off the differences between this and the other versions of Windows. If all does not go well, we might begin covering the registry and how you can use it to get into serious trouble. More on this next month. We are having a difficult time getting these SIG notes in on time. For those who want to know what the SIG is doing, the best place to find out about the SIG (and to sometimes get ideas, hints, and suggestions) is to go to our Web page. Just set your browser to ntpcug.org and go to the SIG pages. We are not in the list!

Neal Berkowitz

WordPerfect / Windows SIG

It has come to my attention that we have several members of this SIG group that are coming from the world of WordPerfect 5.1 for DOS and are launching into the world of Windows. That can be quite intimidating, to put it mildly.

This month we are going to show you a few tricks in the Windows World to make your transition a little easier. We will pull in some old WordPerfect 5.1 files into 6.1 and talk about the conver-

sion process a little. Believe it or not, there are instances where I still choose to File: SaveAs a WordPerfect 5.1 DOS format! Yes, really!?!?!

So come armed with questions and we will tackle those conversion issues together!

Tip of the Month

Have you found that your files are HUGE since moving to windows? Well, my favorite feature (Undo) is an absolutely wonderful feature. However, by default, WordPerfect will keep the last ten undo's in memory and saves all of them with the document, thus dramatically affecting the size of your file.

This is especially true if you are pasting graphics from other programs. You can reduce the size of your files by either reducing the number of undo's that are saved with your document, or do not save your undo's with the document at all!

[Ed. Note: Not saving the undo's has some security benfits as well as size benefits if you are in the habit of sharing your files with others.]

In order to do this, go to Edit on the Menu Bar, then choose Undo/Redo History, Options and make the change you want. However, there is a drawback to not saving the undo at all. That is, if you are used to saving frequently (and I trust all of you are), when you press Control+S, that saves the document, thus erasing any undo history you have done. So if you select Control+Z to undo after saving, the undo you are expecting won't be there. Just thought I would warn you . . .

Cindy Adams

Editor's Note on Logos

I've begun using logo graphics in this section. Most have been taken from the NTPCUG SIG listings at *www. ntpcug.org*, including the graphic for the DOS/ Operating Systems SIG, the Java Programming SIG and the MS Visual C++/MFC SIG. Others were taken from the vendors' own Web sites.

If your SIG has a monochrome logo that will print in the PC News, I'll be glad to include it with your SIG notes. I prefer relatively high-resolution graphics and most logos captured by browsers off the Web are really intended for screen display and don't print that well).

The graphic must be sent as a separate file, not as part of the SIG note file. I can convert almost anything to work in Ventura, but usually prefer .TIF and .EPS format graphics files.

Reagan Andrews

TBBS Becoming History Sooner, Not Later as Fred Believes Tough 'Browser' Issue Solved

A Little Ingenuity, — Graber-Style

Lewis Graber has been instrumental in resolving a major issue related to abandoning a DOS-based communications environment. Seems Lewis, always on the lookout for something for next to nothing, has come across a shareware DOS-based WWW Browser! Lewis has been both testing and accumulating add-ons for this marvel of ancient technology.

Lewis says the "stripped down" version (no graphics support) will run on an 8088 system. The "high-priced spread" version, with many bells and whistles, fits quite comfortably on a 286 machine. So far Lewis has located and tested an e-mail client. I think he has also located a NewsReader module.

Meanwhile... Back at the Ranch

Still waiting for my copy of Exchange Server 5.0.

I have managed to resolve the new system's Web Server addressability issue after a fashion. Seems if I use the NT Server's IP address in the IE search line, the thing works as advertised. Still can't get it to work with just the NT Server's machine name. I would guess it is a WINS Server configuration issue.

I am going to try to at least get the RAS remote logon and automated user access level promotion procedures in place. Once those little tasks are accomplished the machine is going to move to the BBS office. The one thing besides the continuing delays in acquiring software that has severely crimped project progress has been my total lack of "spare" time for over a year now.

NTPCUG On-Line by Fred Williams SYSOP, NTPCUG BBS
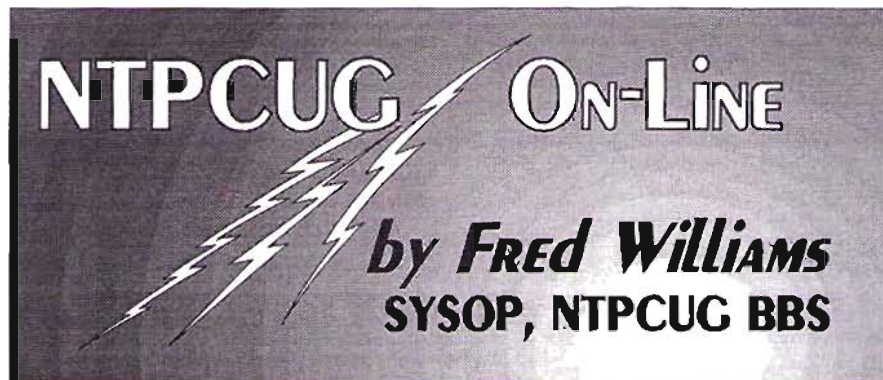
If I can at least get the new system hung on a phone line I can establish connectivity for others with the ability to help implement the planned system design. Doug Gorrie and I recently discussed and cussed the status of this never-ending situation. (It no longer deserves the title of ongoing project.) Doug has been very helpful and supportive of the new implementation, but like everyone else, seems too busy with his real life to devote as much time and effort as he would like.

The Real World - When It's Hot, It's Hot

The BOD has noted, tongue in cheek, that Doug's new job assignment with Southwestern Bell seems to be more like a real job than his previous position. Doug admits he is much busier than he has been, but is truly much happier in his new position. So Doug's gain seems to be NTPCUG's loss.

As an independent consultant for many years, I have learned that one can never be too busy! When times are good in Dallas, there seems to be no end to the opportunities, but there is always only a finite amount of billable time. But, as they say in my old home state, "Make hay while the sun shines."

Things are so hot right now that both Donna (my long-enduring wife) and I were both working until about 3:00 AM last night. Seems graphic artists can find as much work as consultants can these days. In a way, I would like to be spending much more time on Users Group projects, but those $0.00 invoice totals just won't put a lot of bread on the old table!

Well, it is late Sunday afternoon, and we are preparing to trek over to Southlake for a test session for a software product I am developing as a joint venture with a bunch of chicken scale workaholics. This one is hot, hot, hot right now! If Hudson Foods would have been using our new system, they could have recalled far less than that 25 million pounds of ground beef.

Let's see now, at about $1.00 a pound cost...

So, see you all next month. And, by the way, contrary to last month's newsletter, I did not go fishing. Bummer!

Fred Williams

INSIDE THE NORTH TEXAS PC USERS GROUP COMMUNITY
VOLUNTEERS IN ACTION   by Claude McClure

Saturday Is a Disk of the Month Kind of Day

So you have worked all week and want to do something a little different to mark a break in the mad race for greenbacks? Here is a suggestion. Go to the NTPCUG DOM (Disk of the Month) Booth and review the newest computer shareware in 1.44M format. There is usually a wide choice of featured disks, from Games to Utilities. The DOM Squad, led by Mark Gruner, adds a handful of new offerings to the hundreds of existing titles every month. They have an exciting disk waiting for you in the catalog, and are mindful of the various operating systems you are using. A faithful volunteer will be happy to retrieve your selection immediately from the DOM portable warehouse. One such disk was loaded with science fiction sounds as *.WAV files which could be used in Windows applications. The DOM Crew has captured many hours of entertaining activity on their disks. It may cause you to drive a little too fast from the Infomart to your nearest computer for playing. The DOM Squad volunteers, Gene Carleton and Howard Hamilton, edit and produce the disks every month for use at the NTPCUG meeting. Flyers, printed catalog pages and computer disk copies are made to give to new members, and to the DOM Shift Supervisors, Joe Allen, Roy Bales, Don Chick, James Donlon, Pat Henley, and Arnold Krusemark, who distribute them.

The faithful DOM Desk Crew can help you search for the perfect disk, and often give you their experience from having used the software. Many of the volunteers who work at the DOM are listed on this page as well as others who make the NTPCUG weekend a good Saturday activity for the rest of us.

Infomart Liaison
  Stuart Yarus
  Robert Hilliard
  Alex Lilley

Vendor Setup/Breakdown
  Anchors:
    David Slavik
    Kenneth Berg
  Crew:
    Dick Abbott
    Tim Foster
    Neal Van Pelt
    Joseph Wagner
    Robert Whiteside

Auditorium Presentations
  Timothy Carmichael
  Christopher Carmichael

Newsletter Labels
  Charlie Fernandez

Information/Registration Booth
  Statistician:
    Connie Andrews
    Ralph Beaver (Assistant)
  Scheduler:

Bob Wuller
Anchors:
  Ralph Beaver
  Albert Champon
  Erela Eta
  Cinda Lovil (Double)
  David Martin
  Lorin Cranford
  Carl Ochmann
  Fred Toulmin
  Paul Williams
Booth Crew:
  Al Aston
  Jim Boyce
  Vernon Cates
  Randy Durham
  Tim Foster
  James Gorak
  Ken Sauter

Disk of the Month (DOM)
  DOM Shift Supervisors.
    Joe Allen
    Roy Bales
    Don Chick
    James Donlon
    M. Pat Henley
    Arnold Krusemark
  DOM Desk Crew:
    Richard Abreu
    Michael Ashley
    Douglas Albas
    Bernie Baars
    Richard Blair
    Jim Boyce
    Philip Bridge
    Linda Campbell

Gene Carleton
Norm Dang
William Farris
Brad Ficke
Martin R. Gluck
Edwin Griffin
Jimmy Hurst
Tom Jackson
Tom Jones
Mac McKeethen
Mark Miller
Nancy Ogden
John Primm
George Read
Jim Russell-Redman
Oscar Tyler
Lee Williams

With Special Thanks to:
  Set Up Crew:
    Mark Gruner
    Kent Haven

M. Pat Henley
David Huckabee
Jerry Stone
Inventory and Take-down Crew:
  Richard Blair
  Mark Christopher
  Brad Ficke
  Martin R. Gluck
  Arnold Krusemark
DOM Desk Scheduler:
  Phillip Bridge
Disk Production.
  Gene Carleton
  Howard Hamilton

VOLUNTEER INFORMATION

1. Via BBS: (972)387-2751, (972)387-2752 or (972)263-9036 (metro). Sign up on the Volunteer Conference - make the subject matter your area of interest.

2. Meeting day: Sign up at the Information Booth or DOM Booth to work those areas in a coming month

3. By phone:

Auditorium Presentations
  Timothy Carmichael . . . . .   (972) 661-4626 (w)

DOM Booth Scheduler
  Phil Bridge. . . . .   (972) 422-5400

DOM Software Review
  Mark Gruner. . . . .   (972) 964-8147 (h)

Information Booth and General Information
  Claude McClure. . . . .   (972) 867-0978 (h)

NTPCUG User – To – User Program

Introducing the NTPCUG User-To-User program, composed of members who are willing to donate their time to help others with software and hardware questions. Some of our helpers are professional consultants. All have joined the User-to-User Program because they want to share their knowledge with others and help them. They agreed to answer questions that they are comfortable handling over the phone, without charge, and within reasonable time limits (at the volunteer's discretion).

These individuals are volunteering to assist NTPCUG members. NTPCUG is assisting in finding these volunteers for you, but cannot be responsible for unsatisfactory outcomes. Next to each subject, we will list the person's name, phone number and the times they are available. Please honor the wishes of our helpers by seeking help only during those hours.

Please try to resolve your problem by reading the manual and any on-line help BEFORE calling.

SUBJECT HELPER	PHONE	DAYS/HOURS		SUBJECT HELPER	PHONE	DAYS/HOURS	
Access				*Hardware Help*			
Ram Bhandari	(972)243-4056 h	M-F	1300-1700	Charles Miller	(903)938-4220(')	7	1900-2400
Assembly Language				*Internet - General*			
Frank Cavallito	(972)423-9221	7	1800-2200	Erik Leaseburg	(817)265-7550(m)	7	2000-2200
Glynn Brooks	(972)578-8737	M-F	1700-2200	David Martin	(972)930-0283	M-F	1900-2200
BASIC				*Internet - Telnet, FTP, NetScape, Web Explorer (OS/2)*			
Mike Firth	(214)827-7734	7	0800-2200	Bob Wilson	(972)517-1434	M-F	1900-2200
Beginner Problems						S-S	1000-2200
Jan Parkhill	(214)828-2216	M-Sa	0900-1700	*LANs — Novell*			
Shirley Hudgens	(903)432-9780	7	0900-2000	Joseph Beasley	(972)225-8752	7	0800-2400
Brother's Keeper				*— Lantastic*			
Neil Sunderland	(972)272-2869	7	0900-2200	Joseph Beasley	(214)410-3818	7	0900-2200
C++ (the language)				*Managing Your Money*			
Bob Adams	(214)328-1455	M-Sa	0900-1900	Glynn Brooks	(972)578-8737	M-F	1700-2200
Howard Harkness	(817)267-6227	7	1000-2100	*Modems*			
CA Clipper				Erik Leaseburg	(817)265-7550(m)	7	2000-2200
Richard Mitchell	(972)625-9130M	M-F	1900-2100	*MathCAD*			
		SS	0900-2300	Bob Adams	(214)328-1455	M-Sa	0900-1900
CorelDraw				*Norton Utilities*			
Linda Hume	(817)472-7555	M-F	1900-2200	John Dyer	(972)790-3311	M-Sa	0800-2200
		S-S	1300-2200	*OS/2*			
Batch Files				Larry Truesdale	(972)442-7074	7	1000-2200
Charles Miller	(903)938-4220(')	7	1900-2400	*PC Tools/Win*			
Borland C++				Glynn Brooks	(972)578-8737	M-F	1700-2200
Bob Adams	(214)328-1455	M-Sa	0900-1900	*Paradox*			
Howard Harkness	(817)267-6227	7	1000-2100	Fred Williams	(972)492-1315	7	1300-2100
CompuServe				*PKzip/PKUNzip*			
Bob Adams	(214)328-1455	M-Sa	0900-1900	Erik Leaseburg	(817)265-7550(m)	7	2000-2200
dBASE III, III+, IV & Windows				*ProComm/ProComm+*			
Ted Gillam	(972)964-7923	7	0800-1700	Bill Green	(817) 731-1308		
DOS				Joseph Beasley	(972)225-8752	7	0800-2400
Bob Russell	(972)422-4269	7	1900-2200	Joseph Beasley	(214)410-3818	7	0900-2200
Erik Leaseburg	(817)265-7550(m)	7	2000-2200				
DR DOS							
Ralph Beaver	(817)336-0570	M-F	0800-1700				
	(817)624-9530	SS	0900-2100				

NTPCUG USER — TO — USER PROGRAM

SUBJECT HELPER	PHONE	DAYS/HOURS		SUBJECT HELPER	PHONE	DAYS/HOURS
Publisher (Microsoft)				**Windows for Workgroups**		
Bob Russell	(972)422-4269	7 1900-2200		Joseph Beasley	(972)225-8752	7 0800-2400
Pat Cote	(972)831-8055	M-F 0800-1700		Joseph Beasley	(214)410-3818	7 0900-2200
	(972)496-3894	7 1000-2200		Bob Russell	(972)422-4269	7 1900-2200
Quicken				**Windows NT 4.0 & 3.51**		
Jim Hall	(214)348-7848	7 1000-2100		Richard Miles	(972)296-5356	M-F 1900-2200
Quickbooks						SS 10:00-16:00
Jim Thompson	(214)953-0051	M-F 0800-1800			(214)767-7315	M-F 1500-1700
SPFPC				**Word for Windows**		
Doug Gorrie	(214) 464-4568	M-F 0800-1700		Bob Russell	(972)422-4269	7 1900-2200
	(972) 618-8002	S-S 1000-1900		**Works, Microsoft**		
UNIX				Mike Firth	(214)827-7734	7 0800-2200
Doug Scott	(817)261-4653	7 1830-2200		**XENIX**		
Virus & Anti-Virus				Doug Scott	(817)261-4653	7 1830-2200
Charles Miller	(903)938-4220(*)	7 1900-2400		**XTREE**		
Visual Basic -				John Dyer	(972)790-3311	M-Sa 0800-2200
Jim Carter	(972)235-5968	7 1700-2130				
L.J. Johnson	(972)495-9067	7 1700-2130				
Gene Hamelman	(972)495-6342	7 1700-2130				

The subject areas below do not have a volunteer to answer questions. If you would like to assist or add possible categories for the future, please contact Doug Gorrie at (214)464-7924 M-F 0800-1700 or Sa & Su 1000-1900 at (972)618-8002. Doug will send you a form on which you can list your qualifications and sign.

LEGEND:

7 ...... All 7 days of each week	M-F ... Monday through Friday
T&T ... Tuesday and Thursday	M-Sa .. Monday through Saturday
S&S ... Saturday and Sunday	(*)...... Caller should incur any Long Distance charges

Areas Needing Helpers:

Borland Turbo C
CAD
Delphi
Fox Pro
Harvard Graphics
LapLink
Microsoft C
Microsoft C++
Microsoft Visual C++
Microsoft Word
Pagemaker
Roots
Sound Blaster
TurboTax
Corel Ventura
WordPerfect/ Windows
XTREE

North Texas PC Users Group, Inc
Membership Application

The NTPCUG is a non-profit, independent organization of individuals learning to apply personal computers to practical problems. For additional information, call (214) 746-4699.

Member # _____

Name (Last): _____ (First): _____

Address: _____

_____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone (Check preferred.) __ Home: (____) ____ - _____

__ Work: (____) ____ - _____ Ext. _____

Occupation/Profession: _____

Check one from each column below

Payment:	Membership Classification:	Application Status:
Cash _____		New Member _____
Check _____	Regular ($30.00)	Renewal _____
Credit Card _____	Student ($25.00)	Address Change _____

Applications should be mailed to: North Texas PC Users Group, P.O. Box 703449, Dallas, TX 75370-3449 (Make checks payable to : NTPCUG.)

Please initial here _____ if you do not wish to have your address included on member lists sold for the NTPCUG's benefit to advertisers of PC compatible products.

North Texas PC Users Group, Inc.

P.O. Box 703449, Dallas, TX 75370-3449
Phone (214) 746-4699 for recorded information about the North Texas PC Users Group and scheduled
meeting date times and locations. Please leave a message if you would like specific information about the
Group. Or, visit our Web Page at: **www.ntpcug.org**

The North Texas PC Users Group, Inc., is a non-profit,
independent group, not associated with any corporation.
Membership is open to owners and others interested in
exchanging ideas, information, hardware, predictions, and
other items related to personal and compatible computers.
To join the Group, complete the application blank printed
elsewhere in this newsletter, and send with $30 membership
dues to the Membership Director — address shown below.
Subscription to the newsletter is included with each
membership.

The Group meets once each month, usually on the second or
third Saturday. See inside front cover for date, time and
place of the next North Texas PC Users Group meeting.

NORTH TEXAS PC USERS GROUP

NTPCUG Officers and Volunteers You Should Know

North Texas PC Users Group, Inc.
Board of Directors

Jim Hoisington *Chairman*
Reagan Andrews Marsha Drebelbis
Doug Gorrie Alex Lilley
Andy Oliver Fred Williams

NTPCUG Officers

President	Jim Hoisington	(972) 416-3101 b
President-Elect	Andy Oliver	(972) 462-1896 h
		(972) 960-4215 w
Program Chairman	Timothy Carmichael	(972) 566-4626 w
Treasurer	Eb Foerster	(214) 357-7602 h
Secretary	John West	(972) 620-8741 h
Membership Dir.	Jim Hoisington	(972) 416-3101h
Advertising Dir. (Acting)	Connie Andrews	(214) 828-0699h
Publicity	Rob Alschbach	(214) 368-4979 b
Disk of the Month	Mark Gruner	(972) 964-8174 h
Volunteer Coord.	Claude McClure	(972) 867-0978 h
Bulletin Board	Fred Williams	(972) 492-1315

Members Emeritus

John Pribyl (1924 - 1993)
Phil Chamberlain Jim Hoisington
David McGehee Stuart Yarus
Tom Prickett Connie Andrews
Kathryn Loafman Reagan Andrews
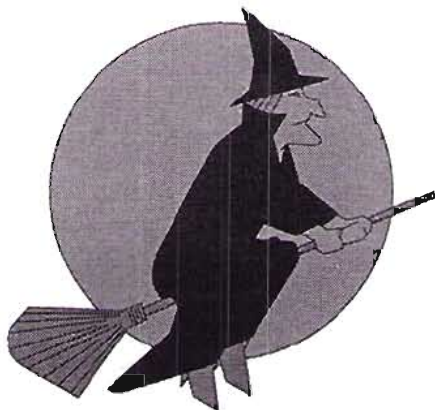Fred Williams Timothy Carmichael
Andy Oliver

NTPCUG Bulletin Board

NOTE: To access the BBS Metro line from outside Area
Code 972, use Area Code 972. *(This is NOT a toll call from
Fort Worth and the Mid-Cities area.)*

Bulletin Board Settings: N – 8 – 1
(No parity, 8 data bits, 1 stop bit)

NTPCUG BBS Telephone Numbers:
.... (972) 387-2751
.... (972) 387-2752
.... METRO (972) 263-9036

SYSOP: .... Fred Williams
Assistant Sysop: .... Tom Prickett
Assistant Sysop: .... Doug Gorrie
Information Mgt: .... Lewis Graber
User Relations: .... Adam Peterson

Password problems?
Call Doug at.........................: (214) 464-4568

TI PRO BULLETIN BOARD ...... (214)361-5275
SYSOP: .... Tom Blackwell

Address Changes, etc...
Payment of dues, address changes, and
inquiries about membership should be
directed to:

NTPCUG Membership Director
P.O. Box 703449
Dallas, Texas 75370-3449

(Check newsletter mailing label for your renewal date..)

North Texas PC Users Group
P.O. Box 703449
Dallas, Texas 75370-3449

Address Correction Requested

16.10

North Texas PC Users Group

Dallas North
Tollway

Slemmons Freeway

INFOMART

Oak Lawn Ave.

35

To Downtown
Dallas

Next Meeting:
11 October 1997